

NBC BRIEFING

27 September 1955

INDONESIA

- I. 29 September will be the first election day for 90% of the Indonesian voters.
  - A. Only in areas of greatest unrest is voting being postponed.
- II. Because of inexperience and complicated system of proportioned representation, results of election will not be known for about a month.
  - A. Leaders of Masjumi (Moslem) Party, which heads present government, are confident of victory.
  - B. It is probable that Masjumi will win at least a plurality and with support of small parties be able to form post-election government.
  - C. Masjumi victory would mean continued development of moderate foreign policy which has been increasingly friendly toward West, particularly with US.
  - D. Communists, who are campaigning vigorously--as good believers in Allah--are expected to make a good showing.
    1. Some observers expect Communists to emerge as Indonesia's second largest party, polling as much as 20% of the vote.
  - E. National Party, which led previous government, has been campaigning indifferently and may prove to be surprisingly weak.

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